



Dick & Eleanor Currie
1324 Lorry Avenue
Modesto, CA 95355-3757

Nov 19, 2002

209-522-4450

Dear Secretary FCC,

The enclosed article was in our Modesto Bee newspaper.

We would like to register our displeasure regarding the many unwanted phone calls that we are continually bombarded with:

Political calls
Sales calls
Survey calls
Stock Broker calls
Donation calls
Etc., etc., etc.

Every day, several times each day unwanted, bothersome calls are disturbing us. Can something be done to control this situation?

NO. 10 Envelope 10/10/02
C

Thank you,

Dick & Eleanor Currie

NOV 27 2002

How to hang up on telemarketers — permanent

We all know and love the phone call just when dinner is reaching a boil and the kids are in crisis mode:

"Do you own your home?" the voice on the line asks. Or, "You've been selected to receive a Las Vegas weekend, for just \$120." Or worse yet, it's a tape recording selling something or other.

Telemarketing, by phone, e-mail and fax, has grown from a \$435 billion industry in 1990 to \$600 billion last year, the Federal Communications Commission says.

The FCC fields complaints about telemarketers, and enforces rules, including a ban on calls before 8 a.m. and after 9 p.m.

The telemarketers also have to maintain a "do-not-call" list.

But with the advent of newer technologies like

autodialers, the FCC is considering rule revisions to better protect consumers' privacy.

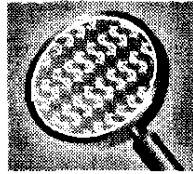
One change under consideration is establishing a national do-not-call list in addition to the lists maintained by some states.

So this is your chance to tell the FCC how you think the telemarketing industry should be regulated.

You can file comments electronically or in written form on or before Friday. To file electronically, go to the FCC's Web site at www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html.

To file in written form, send your comments to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th St. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. Include the docket number, CG Docket No. 02-278.

You can get a fact sheet explaining the current rules by looking on the Web site



CONSUMER

www.fcc.gov/cgb, under "Consumer Alerts Fact Sheets," or by calling the FCC consumer centers at (888) CALL-FCC.

Complaints against telemarketers can also be registered on the Web site or by calling FCC telephone number.

If you would like to get on the Direct Marketing Association's do-not-call list, mail your name, phone number and signature in a letter to Telephone Preference Service, Box 643, Carle Place, N.Y. 10512.

You can also register for the list online at www.the-dma.org/cgi/offtelephonedave, but there is a \$5 fee for doing it online. Once you register, your name stays on the list for five years.

Consumer Focus is compiled by Bee staff writer Tim Moran. If you have items of interest to consumers, contact: Consumer Focus, The Modesto Bee, P.O. Box 100, Modesto 95352, or call 578-2336.

+